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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/722,774	11/25/2003	Osamu Imaki	KPO187	7245

25271 7590 03/11/2005

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[REDACTED] EXAMINER

NASRI, JAVAID H

[REDACTED] ART UNIT [REDACTED] PAPER NUMBER
2839

DATE MAILED: 03/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/722,774	IMAKI, OSAMU	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Javaid Nasri	2839	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM
 THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 December 2004.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) 2-24 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4/16/04, 12/11/03.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election with traverse of Specie I, figures 9-11, claims 1-4 in the reply filed on 12/27/2004 is acknowledged. Claims 5-24 are withdrawn from further consideration. While examining claims 1-4, it was noticed that the limitations of claims 2-4 are not shown in elected figures 9-11. For example, the limitation of claim 2 such as thicker and thinner sides and the ridges are formed on the thicker side is not shown in figures 9-11. The limitations of claim 3, such as one guide groove and protrusions are shown in non-elected figures 12 and 13 as 41A, 41B, 42A and 42B. Therefore, claims 2-4 are also withdrawn from further consideration.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 1-24 are objected to because of the following informalities:

- In claim 1, line 22, the wall surface, lacks antecedent base.

Note: These are few examples only. Applicant is required to check all the claims and correct them accordingly.

Oath/Declaration

3. The oath or declaration is defective. A new oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a) identifying this application by application number and filing date is required. See MPEP §§ 602.01 and 602.02.

The oath or declaration is defective because:

Art Unit: 2839

- a) It does not identify the mailing address of each inventor. A mailing address is an address at which an inventor customarily receives his or her mail and may be either a home or business address. The mailing address should include the ZIP Code designation. The mailing address may be provided in an application data sheet or a supplemental oath or declaration. See 37 CFR 1.63(c) and 37 CFR 1.76.
- b) It does not identify the city and either state or foreign country of residence of each inventor. The residence information may be provided on either on an application data sheet or supplemental oath or declaration.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Batdorf et al (4,762,387, cited in IDS).

Batdorf et al discloses, **for claim 1**, a substrate (52) having a plurality of ridges (50) formed on one surface of the substrate substantially in parallel with one another with said predetermined pitch; and a cover member (42) having a plurality of ridges (46) formed on one surface of the cover member substantially in parallel with one another with said predetermined pitch, and wherein the width of the ridges of the substrate and the width of the ridges of the cover member are set to have such values that the cover member is movable relative to the substrate in the direction substantially orthogonal to the ridges in a state that the ridges of the substrate and the ridges of the cover member are engaged with one another; and the substrate and the cover member are arranged such that in the state that the ridges of the substrate and the ridges of the

cover member are engaged with one another, sliding of the cover member in the direction substantially orthogonal to the ridges relative to the substrate causes each optical fiber to be nipped, positioned and held between the wall surface of each ridge of the substrate and the wall surface of each corresponding ridge of the cover member (see figures 3, 5).

Contact

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Javaid Nasri whose telephone number is 571 272 2095. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tulsidas C. Patel can be reached on 571 272 2800 ext 39. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any correspondence to this action may be mailed to:

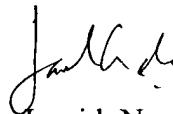
**Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

For additional information regarding this new address, which was effective May 1, 2003, see
Correspondence with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, 68 Fed. Reg. 14332
(*March 25, 2003*).

Or faxed to: 703-308-7722 or 308-7724 (informal or draft communications should be clearly labeled
“PROPOSED” or “DRAFT”)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to:

Crystal Plaza 4, Fourth Floor (receptionist)
2201 South Clark Place, Arlington, Virginia



Javaid Nasri
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2839

JN
Jhn
March 7, 2005